President Trump?

Cesar Renero ’17 critiques the growing popularity of Trump as a 2016 GOP candidate on **page 6**.

What fools these mortals be!

Read sophomore Bridget Lavin’s preview of *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, on **page 10**.

Ruck and Roll

Learn more about Hamilton’s men’s rugby club on **page 16**.

The Spectator

Thursday,
Sept. 3, 2015

Volume LVI
Number 1

Orientation trips become universal for new students

by Lucas Phillips ’16
Editor-in-Chief

Announcing to the arrival date of students for this year’s freshman orientation, Andrew Jillings, Director of the Outdoor Leadership Center, wrote, “‘What could possibly go wrong?’ we hear you ask. Well, that’s why we’re writing.” Nearly all of Hamilton’s first-year class was coming to campus on the same day for the first time in over 30 years, when Adirondack Adventure (AA) trips were first started in 1984.

This year marked a major expansion of Hamilton’s orientation program. The updated orientation included a new trip option alongside AA and Outreach Adventure (OA), Exploration Adventure (XA), under the direction of Tessa Chefalo, Coordinator of Orientation and First-Year Programs. The new program included a wide range of trips including “Beekeeping,” “Finding Your Inner Lorax” and “Say Cheese! Photography and Fromage in the Finger Lakes.” There were 29 total options offered for XA and 68 orientation trips overall.

Trip ideas came from a range of sources. Chefalo consulted past trip leaders, student interns, last year’s first-year class, faculty and staff. “We wanted to make sure that when every first-year student went into the list to look, they would find a least something…that they were really drawn to,” she said.

The entire incoming class of 518 students participated in 60 trips total. Making these orientation trips mandatory expanded the program’s involvement about 40 percent, up from the roughly 60 percent average in previous years. Jillings explained this change: “The trips were made a requirement of orientation for the simple reason that they work and it’s unfair to deprive incoming students of a beneficial experience.”

The program is designed to help students get to know one another and their upper classman trip leaders. Chefalo noted, “creating connections…is our primary goal. It has been from the start.” Feedback from students has been positive so far, she says. Tyler Spector ’19, who went on “Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship,” an XA program, commented, “I liked doing the Orientation program. It was a good way to make a group of friends.”

The expansion of the program posed serious logistical challenges. Director of Community Outreach and organizer of OA Amy James said, “The increased numbers were challenging but also very welcome; in general some things were greatly improved, and some things took more work than expected.” 120 student trip leaders were involved, and the operation required the coordination of Bon Appetit, Physical Plant, Residential Life, Campus Safety, Auxiliary Services, Dean of Students and Faculty. “It truly took our whole ‘village,’” James commented.

Despite these successes, there has still been discussion about how to improve the programs for next year. The evaluation process includes immediate debriefing with trip leaders, larger meetings with faculty and staff and an orientation survey being sent to first-years later this week. Chefalo hopes to make XA trips even more hands-on. She also hopes to improve the program’s ability to help students better choose their trips.

The marks of success aren’t simply in the trips themselves, however. The true goal is improving the long-term experience of students. Chefalo explained, “everyone had a pretty positive experience from what I can tell, and I’m excited to see how that will impact the year ahead and the four years ahead for all these students, too.”

Morris House unveiled

See full coverage on page 8

Lisa Magnarelli named interim Title IX Coordinator

by Michael Levy '18
News Editor

HAMILTON.EDU

Lisa Magnarelli '96 will serve as Interim Senior Associate Dean of Students and Title IX Coordinator for the 2015-16 academic year. Magnarelli succeeds Meredith Harper Bonham who, since 2011, served both as Senior Associate Dean of Students for Strategic Initiatives and Title IX Coordinator at Hamilton. Harper Bonham, along with her husband Jay Bonham '93— former Associate Dean of Admission at Hamilton — are making the move to Kenyon College where Harper Bonham will serve as Vice President for Student Affairs.

Since 2000, Lisa Magnarelli has served Hamilton in various capacities in the Division of Student Life.

After an unsuccessful national search for Harper Bonham's replacement, Magnarelli was chosen to take on the role in the interim for her broad practical experience and continued commitment to serving her alma mater. In an email to *The Spectator*, Vice President and Dean of Students Nancy Thompson, commented:

"We conducted a search for a Title IX Coordinator last spring, but weren't convinced we had found the right person for the job. When we thought about people on campus who know and care about students and who could do the job well, Lisa came to mind, and thankfully, she agreed to serve in the interim role and was willing to spend a portion of her summer in training."

Thompson further noted that the search will reopen again in the spring. Though it is clear that Magnarelli's current role as Senior Associate Dean of Students and Title IX Coordinator is temporary, Magnarelli does not intend to leave Hamilton in the near future.

Magnarelli's hopes and ambitions for the academic year align closely with Bonham's own, and she plans to pick-up precisely where her predecessor left-off last spring.

Upon accepting this new position, Magnarelli acknowledges that there was a lot of catching-up for her to do in regards to educating herself about federal and state gender equity and equal protection mandates, as well as sexual-misconduct prevention and response procedures already put into place on campus. In an interview with *The Spectator*, Magnarelli noted:

"Meredith was fantastic -- there are very big shoes to fill. I would like to maintain the strides she had made in this position. Her goals had been education and prevention. I would certainly like to continue pursuing those same goals. This really is the focus right now. We have done a great job with our policy, and of making sure it meets both federal and state guidelines."

The growing role of Title IX Coordinator in academic settings involves staying up-to-date on the latest legislation. Recently there has been a broad effort on the part of academic institutions to amend protocols and refine interpretations of consent. New legislation was passed in New York State regarding the language of sexual assault. New York State's new legislation of what constitutes consent includes the terms:

"Affirmative consent is a knowing, voluntary and mutual decision among all participants to engage in sexual activity."

"Consent to any sexual act or prior consensual sexual activity between or with any party does not necessarily constitute consent to any other sexual act."

When asked about how Hamilton will act to realign its policy with these changes, Magnarelli noted that much of the newly introduced standards had already been included in the College's rhetoric regarding Title IX. Because the College's policy already reflected much of the wording recently passed into legislation, very few changes had to be made. Magnarelli observed, "There was some proscribed language that was required that we have had to incorporate into the policy, but they do not change the policy at all. We had affirmative consent language within our policy already, and because of this we had to alter it only slightly to match the language that New York State had in place."

"When we thought about people on campus who know and care about students...Lisa came to mind"

—Dean of Students Nancy Thompson

Though at first there was a learning curve for Magnarelli, certain responsibilities associated with her position were already quite familiar to her. Serving as Greek Life Advisor prior to taking her new role as Title IX Coordinator, Magnarelli has a firm understanding of Hamilton culture and a lot of experience communicating with our fraternities and sororities on campus.

The presence of Greek Life at Hamilton has been subject to recent discourse on campus. When asked about her stance on the issue, Magnarelli commented, "I am an advocate of Greek Life so long as they are contributing positively to the community -- which I think is all we've ever wanted for them. I think with some of the changes we've made with rush and pledge period -- I've seen some really great improvement with the groups. I think they're focusing on supporting and providing good experiences for their members. I hope they have a long and successful future at Hamilton."

AMHERST BATES BOWDOIN COLBY CONNECTICUT COLLEGE

NESCAC NEWS

by Isaac Kirschner '17
News Writer

Amherst welcomes new Dean of Students

Following an extensive national search, Amherst College named Alex Vasquez as the school's new Dean of Students this past June. Vasquez, who has spent 17 years working in higher education administration, assumed his new position as head of the Office for Student Affairs on July 15.

Chief Student Affairs Officer Suzanne Coffey, who served as the co-chair of the Dean of Students search committee praised Mr. Vasquez saying, "Alex has focused his career on supporting students, and he has done that work in a variety of offices—from residential life to multicultural affairs to academic advising. Viewing student life through those different lenses has afforded him a holistic perspective that we are thrilled he will bring to Amherst."

Vasquez began his career working in the Student Life Department at Colgate University. In 2001 he took a job at Wheaton College where he worked his way up through the administrative ranks to eventually become the Dean for Advising and Academic Success. He earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from the University at Albany, State University of New York and is currently a doctoral candidate at Boston College.

"I'm thrilled to join the Amherst College community," said Vasquez. "The opportunity to partner with Amherst students on the continued development of a deep and engaging student experience is incredible. College is an exciting time at the intersection of who our students are and who they want to become. They entrust us with that moment, and I'm so fortunate to have the opportunity to share it with them."

Middlebury Summer Language School marks 100th anniversary

Not only did this year's Middlebury Summer Language School graduation celebrate the commencement of 109 masters candidates and 3 doctoral candidates, but also the Schools 100th anniversary. During the Aug. 14 ceremony, former Middlebury College President Ronald Liebowitz marked the occasion by delivering a 15-minute commencement address both praising the schools commitment to language immersion and the graduating class.

Liebowitz urged the graduates "to fight for more" foreign-language education in public schools. "Whether you become a K through 12 teacher, are a parent advocating for your children in their schools or simply are an enlightened citizen exercising your rights and responsibilities to influence public policy, you need to become an activist. The world today demands more than monolingual, mono-culturally aware youth."

The Middlebury Summer Language School is a multi-week language immersion program in which participants take intensive language classes as well as agree to only speak their specified language of study. Failure to abide by this condition could result in the student's expulsion from the program.

Incoming Middlebury President Laurie L. Patton congratulated the graduates, saying, "You have become masters -- literally from the Latin, 'ones who are called to teach.' You have become doctors -- literally from the Latin, 'ones who lead others, who show the way.' So long may you go on thinking, dreaming, stumbling, joking, arguing, persuading, dancing, running, sighing, playing and hoping, in another language."

Former President Liebowitz was also a degree recipient himself -- of an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters -- along with honorary degree recipients Edward C. Knox, college professor of French emeritus; Jessica K. Liebowitz, advisor to the chair of the Middlebury Board of Trustees; and Helene Zimmer-Loew, a leader in national organizations for the teaching of foreign languages.

MIDDLEBURY TRINITY TUFTS WESLEYAN WILLIAMS

Students explore new places, new experiences

by Kirsty Warren '18
News Editor

This summer found Hamilton students working in fields as diverse as medicine, government and public service in locations as far flung as New York City, Ethiopia, Latin America and Nepal.

Leslie Campos '17, Lindsay Heyer '17 and Daniel Reyes '17 spent the summer working with Professor Heather Sullivan and Professor Joel Winkelman of the government department. The group studied the way states gain legitimacy and public support and spent two weeks in San Jose, Costa Rica in July following their fieldwork preparation on Hamilton's campus. "Danny, Leslie and I each focused on a specific 'elite' group, to understand how the state may interface with each group to craft legitimacy. Danny focused on the media, Leslie studied religious leaders and leaders of ethnic minorities and I looked at economic elites," Heyer said.

In Costa Rica, the group met with leaders of labor unions, the Vice Minister of Labor, a journalist and the head of the Commission on Afro-Descendant Affairs. They also attended some of Professor Sullivan's interviews with public officials and learned from the host families they stayed with.

"This summer gave me the opportunity to study the region more in depth, while working closely with my peers and professors," Heyer said. A Spanish major, she said she found it particularly fascinating to use the language while researching and to have the opportunity to meet Costa Rican public officials.

Pre-med student Jack Goodman '18 also used the summer to gain experience in his future career field. At Columbia Presbyterian Hospital in New York City, Goodman shadowed head of oncology Dr. Gary Schwartz. Goodman chose to shadow Dr. Schwartz because he specializes in sarcoma (cancer of connective tissue), which Goodman had at age nine.

"The most rewarding experience would be seeing the patients that come in thinking they have mere weeks to live because most other oncologists have nothing more they can do for them. However, Dr. Schwartz will almost always pull a 'Schwartz Miracle' and give them hope," he said. "It might not be possible to cure them. He might just be able to extend their life by a few months but that means the world to these patients. Many of them broke out in tears of joy when he told them what he had planned. I left those meetings feeling so fulfilled and I don't know why. I didn't do anything. I guess the feeling of fulfillment that Dr. Schwartz felt rubbed off on me."

Though he found it difficult to "see himself" in patients and relate to their experiences, Goodman said that shadowing Dr. Schwartz reminded him why he wants to be a doctor.

Far from New York, Sharif Shrestha '17 implemented a project called "Herbs for Change" which aims to uplift the economic condition and living standards of people of Eastern Nepal. Just to get to his project site, Shrestha had to ride a 4X4 up the mountains for ten hours and then walk for nine hours in dangerous monsoon conditions. "It was all worth it," Shrestha said. "The rewarding part comes from the beautiful experience I had working with the villagers in the simple lifestyle they are accustomed to and also by walking out knowing I am helping to create a long-standing and a substantial change in the village."

For Tsion Tesfaye '16, this summer marked the second year of the "Youth For Ethiopia" project she started last year. Youth For Ethiopia offers math, English and leadership courses to students and this year the project had 37 graduates from three schools. "I believe that Ethiopia, and the African continent, is dripping with potential," Tesfaye said. "I wanted youth in Ethiopia also to see this and be equipped with the skills to take advantage of these opportunities so that Ethiopia can become the prosperous country it was meant to be."

PHOTO COURTESY OF SHARIF SHRESTHA '17

Sharif Shrestha '17 (center) implemented a service project in eastern Nepal.

Many students related their summer projects or experiences back to classes they've taken at Hamilton. Shrestha said the course "Economics of Social Responsibility" had a major influence on the development of his project and business model. For Heyer, her Spanish classes and Professor Sullivan's classes on Latin America piqued her interest in the region. Shrestha funded his project with a Resolution Fellowship from the Clinton Global Initiative ands funding from the Levitt Center. Christopher Powell '17 received a Levitt Public Service Internship which he used to intern in Guatemala with Tree 4 Hope (T4H), a nonprofit organization.

Powell tried his hand at several different jobs while in Guatemala. He facilitated groups of volunteers from the United States, served at an orphanage called Hogar Miguel Magone, wrote a food grant for an oncological hospital and managed T4H's social media presence. For Powell, visiting a hospital and working with children at the orphanage were what resonated with him the most.

"[The kids] are all friendly, and excited to meet anybody new. The smiles on their faces almost never disappear, which is always amazing given their circumstances," Powell said. "I'll miss those kids a ton, but I know I'll return soon."

Campus Safety Incident Report

In an effort to increase Campus Safety's transparency and draw attention to students' dangerous and destructive behaviors, *The Spectator* will publish a selection of the previous weekend's incidents each Thursday. The entire report is available in the online edition of *The Spectator.* Both Campus Safety and *The Spectator* will use their discretion regarding what is published.

Wednesday August 26, 2015

9:10 a.m. Fire Alarm – Woollcott House
4:07 p.m. Smoke Detector – North Hall
6:07 p.m. Smoke Detector – Bundy West
6:18 p.m. Animal Complaint – Kirkland Hall
7:46 p.m. Power Outage – Root Farmhouse Apts.
8:47 p.m. Animal Complaint – College Hill Rd
9:18 p.m. Noise Complaint – Saunders House
9:53 p.m. Smoke Detector – Milbank Hall

Thursday, August 27, 2015

2:39 a.m. Medical Emergency – Dunham Lot
10:47 a.m. Motorist Assist – College Hill Rd
4:06 p.m. Medical Emergency – Residence Hall
4:31 p.m. Medical Emergency – Residence Hall
7:28 p.m. Smoke Detector – Griffin Road Apts.
7:48 p.m. Smoke Detector – North Hall
8:09 p.m. Fire Alarm – Major Hall
10:17 p.m. Area Check – College Hill Rd

Friday, August 28, 2015

6:08 p.m. Fire Alarm – Woollcott House
9:27 p.m. Medical Emergency – Residence Hall
9:33 p.m. Smoke Detector – Bundy West
9:49 p.m. Area Check – Martin's Way

Saturday, August 29, 2015

12:36 a.m. Medical Emergency – Residence Hall
12:42 a.m. Medical Emergency – Sadove Center
4:27 a.m. Smoke Detector – Eells House
10:50 p.m. Medical Emergency – KJ Exterior
11:24 p.m. Medical Emergency – Green Apple Way

Sunday August 30, 2015

10:09 a.m. Smoke Detector – Babbitt Hall
4:45 p.m. Medical Emergency – Royce Field

Universal orientation: A net positive

August 18 was a crazy day on the Hill. For the first time in over thirty years the entire first year class moved in on one day. These students, greeted by more than 100 student leaders and countless other community members represented the culmination of a multi-year project to standardize the orientation experience. This change was the result of the (probably correct) belief that pre-orientation, once a niche experience for some first-years, was becoming exclusionary, and students who were not participating were being left with an on-campus orientation experience that was generally seen as lackluster. While this was a serious undertaking that was never going to be seamless in the first iteration, the team that worked together to plan and execute these trips did a phenomenal job.

As part of the planning process Tessa Chefalo, coordinator of orientation and first year programs, in tandem with Andrew Jillings, director of outdoor leadership and Amy James, director of community outreach worked to send every first-year, plus transfers and some January-admits, out on 60 orientation trips. The meat of the new program was Exploration Adventure (XA), which joined the well-established Adirondack and Outreach Adventure programs. There were certainly bumps along the road, an understandable occurrence when planning over 20 new 5 day trips that aimed to take new students to exciting and culturally relevant sites in central New York.

Over time, the program should and will evolve. Many orientation leaders tell stories of having rather unengaged trip participants, an inevitable result of not everyone being able to get their first choice. However, as time goes on accrued wisdom will give College officials a better idea of the type of trip that appeals to a wide range of students and ways to keep nervous, out of their comfort zone students entertained. This strengthening of XA will also make the program more attractive for applying leaders. Some XA leaders, the majority of whom were hired this year, report feeling like second-class citizens compared to the more entrenched AA leaders. Over time, the programs should become more integrated and officials should consider dropping the Adirondack/Outreach/Exploration prefixes for a more standard, universal name.

Finally, while mandatory trips were a net positive, the new system may have been a step back for on-campus orientation. Trip leaders continued to facilitate on-campus events replacing a group of over-enthused and sometimes over-served on campus leaders. For all the faults on-campus orientation did have, the leaders did a great job of hyping up on-campus events and connecting their participants with things they cared about. This year, events that have been traditionally popular, such as The Mentalist show and the Chaplaincy ice cream event saw decreased attendance.

Overall, the new orientation system was a success but there are things that can and will improve to better it long-term.

***The Spectator* editorial represents the opinions of the majority of the editorial board. It is not necessarily unanimously agreed upon.**

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The Spectator's Letter to the Editor section is designed to be a forum for the entire Hamilton community to discuss and debate campus, local, national and global issues. Pieces published in the section express the opinion of the individual writers and are not necessarily the opinions of *The Spectator*, its editors or the Media Board.

Letters to the Editor are welcome from all students, alumni/ae, faculty, friends of the college and Hamilton community members.

The Spectator has the following policies for submission:

1. Submissions are due by 10:00 p.m. on the Monday before publication. The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. The editors reserve the right to cut off letters at 500 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. The Spectator reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
5. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

About Us

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Orientation Review: senior vs. first-year

by Caroline Harrington '16
Opinion Editor

Two weeks ago, a new crop of first-years showed up on the Hill to crowds of cheering AA, OA and XA leaders. The enthusiastic leaders, dressed in Salvation Army's finest mix of colorful '80s paraphernalia and ugly hats, welcomed Hamilton's newest students with their classic signs promising "ice cream for breakfast" and "no bedtimes." Looking through Facebook pictures of friends from my own trip in 2012, now with kids of their own, I was hit with a wave of nostalgia. It seemed as though nothing had changed since the day my parents drove me up to 198 College Hill Road in our blue Suburban packed with newly purchased college supplies.

And yet, a lot is different. This year, the administration changed the orientation policy, making a pre-orientation trip a mandatory event for all first-year students. Previously, the trips were optional, and while the majority of students participated, it was only the slight majority. As a terrified first-year in 2012, I was only surrounded by about fifty-two percent of my future classmates.

My trip was the best experience of my life. It beats out coaching an underdog championship basketball team—a feat which, when written in essay form, helped me become a Continental—it beats out high school prom and it probably beats out my amazing experience abroad in Madrid. I met my best friend during that trip and gained immense amounts of confidence through ropes course challenges.

Granted, not everyone can have a perfect trip experience. Sometimes bad luck gets in the way and you don't mesh with your group members. Maybe you get sick in the woods, or have an irrational fear of bears. But that said, there could always be a takeaway. Coming to college is a huge transition. For many of us, it was the first time we really had to leave home and start over, completely friendless.

The orientation trips serve as an equalizer. Everyone is put in a situation that is far out of his or her comfort zone with six to eight strangers. It's an outlet for everyone to learn to adapt quickly and simultaneously.

A day after coming home from my trip—and after thoroughly cleaning every inch of my body of a week's worth of dirt—my roommate showed up. She was of the forty-eight percent of students who opted to skip the pre-orientation opportunity. Coming from that different Hamilton background, I felt like we did not have as much in common. Mariel Radek '16, a friend who did not go on a trip, said "I didn't feel like I missed out but I definitely feel like the AA and OA kids were more confident than everyone else who didn't go on a trip."

Julia Coash '16, my best friend from the second we made goofy faces at each other during our pre-orientation hike, said that as a trip leader she thinks "making the trips mandatory brought a lot of diversity to the groups that I haven't seen in previous years."

Overall, the administrative change to require the trip can only be a good thing. The overwhelming response has been positive, from both first-years and trip leaders. The only negative is that, as a senior, I can't return next year and go back to Cranberry Lake to start my Hamilton career over again.

"The trip is a fantastic experience for new students in that it provides first-years the opportunity to bond with other first-years as well as older leaders who all offer unique perspectives."
– Levi Lorenzo '19

PHOTOS COURTESY OF ANNE McGARVEY '17

"Although I lost my love for cheddar cheese, I gained valuable insight on freshman year from two very dedicated students.Thank you AA!"
– Max Hernandez '19

PHOTO COURTESY OF KATE BROUNS '17

by Sophia Wang '19
Opinion Contributor

Is huddling inside a cold sleeping bag, listening to the scratching sound of roaring wind enjoyable? Probably not. If we add the sweaty cheese and rotten apples, we are more inclined to say that no, it is not. So here comes the question: why did we bother ourselves to join a trip that had so many unpleasant parts?

Well, the answer is pretty simple: because it is mandatory. This year all first-year students have to take part in one of those orientation trips. It is the first experiment in putting a once optional tag on everyone: the shared unique experience of orientation trip. We have to admit that this experiment was successful.

In the past years, only around half of students joined the trips. Some students who arrived on campus knew nearly nothing about their peers, while some of them were familiar with other students. This year, things changed. Despite being from different backgrounds, we could easily connect with our fellow classmates as we all experienced the enriching orientation trips. These shared experiences brought us into a spiritually intimate space in a physically unfamiliar place. We focused more on the similarities we share, rather than the differences apparent at first glance. New friends and hectic schedules reduced the homesickness and helped us embrace our college life.

Aside from using this experience in our social life, our friends in the orientation trip meant a lot to us. On the night of the team bonfire, many of us expressed that our friends were the most meaningful parts in our trips. "The actual trips were fun too, but it's who and how you spend time with that counts," said a participant in the Animal Care trip, an XA excursion. We gradually knew more about each other in trips and games, as we could still remember the silent killer in the mafia at that dark but warm night with a campfire. We discovered the fantastic talent and life experiences underlying the calm faces of friends. We actually helped each other in the transition to college life, as we felt we knew someone well on this campus.

It is easy to judge our personal experiences, quite arbitrarily with "like" or "dislike," because we focus more on "self," as we know we need to gain something from these experiences, such as fun, knowledge or even simply the fulfillment of events themselves. But when we show up as a team, we finally find out that the time spent with friends goes beyond the trip itself. We crossed the boundary from "self" to "others."

Thanks to the mandatory orientation trip, I met my friends who I might never have had a chance to know. Without the five days we spent together, we might just say "hi" and pass by. It is a loss that I cannot imagine. It is the orientation trip, but it is also more than that. The trip directed us to something better.

2016 Race to the White House

Who doesn't love to see middle-aged politicians duke it out for that coveted seat on Penn Ave? Come on, what's more entertaining than mature adults fighting like middle-schoolers? Say hello to *The Spectator*'s newest column following the 2016 Presidential Race. This column will feature weekly op-eds from all corners of the Hamilton community. From Bernie Sanders to Waka Flocka Flame, we welcome opinions on any topic about the race. Have something to say about Jeb or Hillary, or on what should be the button-pressing issues of the week? Email us at spec@hamilton.edu.

The Donald and the rise of American Populism

by Cesar Renero '17
Opinion Editor

Those who follow the trials and tribulations of European politics are likely aware of burgeoning political movements which are not necessarily defined by ideology or a strict policy outlook. Instead, they rely on charismatic rhetoric that demonizes the established political class, business elites and international interests that either meddle in the country's affairs, or send their problems to them via immigrants. Almost every country in Europe has an example of such a party or political movement, and the time has come for the American political mainstream to welcome this populist revolution into its midst.

Since his well-known campaign launch, Donald Trump has emerged as the favored candidate to discuss. His brash, chauvinistic and bouffant demeanor is backed up by a slapdash political platform, which has significant policy vacuums that Mr. Trump has routinely filled with his ego. Polls are demonstrating this novel campaigning strategy is working, albeit with some reservations. In head-to-head contests he has had mixed results, yet he remains at the top of the GOP race; a recent result showed he had a 14.5 point lead over the runner-up. Moreover, his name recognition beats hands-down that of any other Republican candidate.

It is also important to acknowledge that since Reagan, the Republican Party has perhaps unwittingly paved the way for Trump's accession to the top of the polls. For years they have been pandering to voters with rhetoric involving family values, hard conservatism and a sustained belief in the American Dream. It seems the best way to get elected in hardcore Republican districts is to reject anything with even a trace of liberalism or progressivism, including same-sex marriage, expanded birth control coverage and further measures to combat climate change.

Trump's brilliant campaign is exploiting the logical loopholes in the GOP agenda, turning their volume up to eleven and, through what seems to be unintended satire, exposing the ridiculousness of some Republican policies. However, Trump is also a very important indicator of the political health of our current system, and his anti-government and anti-business platform is gaining traction in much the same way fringe populist parties gain votes in Europe. Notable among GOP candidates, Trump is advocating to raise taxes on the wealthy.

Trump should not be ignored because he is the soapbox for angry, dissatisfied voters who are no longer willing to abide by the political mainstream's rulebook. Whether this figurative rulebook is good or bad is inconsequential: through a total rejection of conventional politics, there is no point of reference and candidates start gaining votes through their charisma. They alienate certain segments of the population through their rhetoric, and these elements become politically anarchical.

At one of the latest Trump rallies, a vociferous attendee proudly stated he would like the government to legalize hunting illegal immigrants. Although he later said this was meant as a joke, the farcical nature of Trump's campaign is only preposterous to those who do not take him seriously. The danger is that for many people, as the GOP polls show, Trump remains the number one choice for the presidency.

"I think I will have a lot of Democrats voting for me—far more than any Republican for the last long period of time."

–Donald Trump

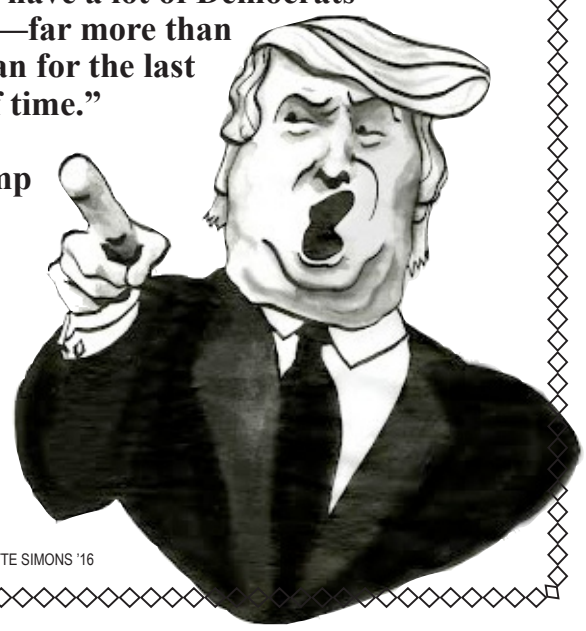

ILLUSTRATION BY CHARLOTTE SIMONS '16

Thumbs Up	Thumbs Down	Who Cares?
Morris House: Possibly haunted by a ghost, definitely haunted by what you did there last weekend.	Weather: Bros still dress like they're going on a yacht, hipsters still think they're at Coachella and freshmen are dressed like they're terrified.	Jitney was cash only: And that night at the Rok turned out to be townies only.
Add/Drop Period: Add Food For Thought, Drop Us Off At The Cider Mill.	Missing Road Signs: Seems like a job for the Ladies of TUTD. By the way, we're part-time detectives now. Look for our ad on the most syrup-covered copy of the Daily Bull.	Exception Mailing Wants to Spoon: How about you spoon all your emails out of our inboxes.
Seniors are back from abroad: Unfortunately, there's no space in their Ferg single for their ego.	Campus smells bad: It's gross now, but in 20 years when you catch a whiff of shit you'll be reminded of the good times you had covering your nose while walking from Burke to KJ.	

by Jessye McGarry '16 and Carrie Solomon '16

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this column are purely of a satirical nature, and are not representative of the views of *The Spectator* editorial board.

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Bachelor and Bachelorette

Michael Berrios '16

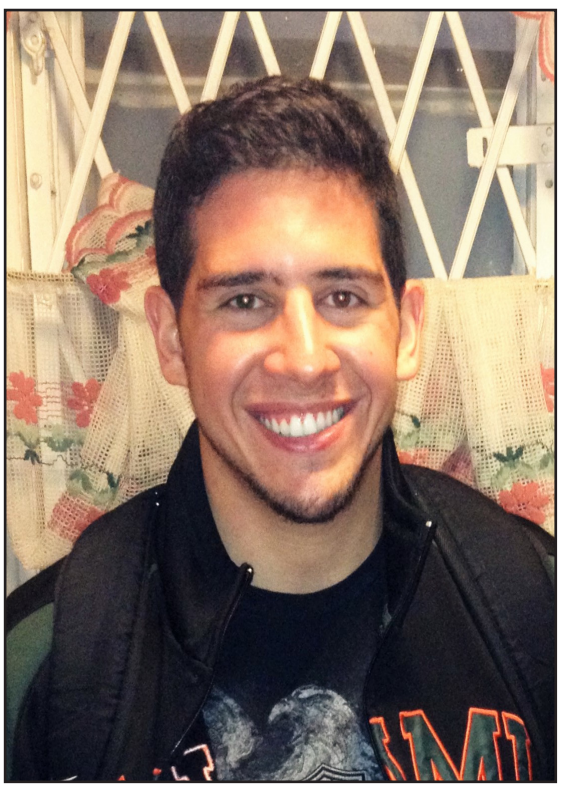


PHOTO COURTESY OF MICHAEL BERRIOS '16

Hometown: *Miami, FL.*
Home on Campus: *Minor.*
Major: *Religious Studies.*
Turn on? *Good sense of humor.*
Turn off? *Bad breath.*
If you were a dorm which would you be and why? *Kirkland because it is central and up the hill.*
Lights on or lights off? *Lights on.*
What advertising slogan best describes your life? *Life is a journey, enjoy the ride.*
If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two musicians, whom would you pick and why? *Billy Corgan and DMX. Can you imagine a mashup between "Bullet with Butterfly Wings" and "Party Up (Up In Here)"? That's pretty much me.*
What's the best pick-up line you've ever used/had used on you? *"So… on a scale of 1 to can I text you, can I text you?"*
What's your type? *A beautiful, smart, engaging woman who can also deal with my antics.*
What are three things you cannot live without? *Family, money and music.*
If you were any social space, what would it be? *The Annex.*
Where do you go when you want to be alone? *Sometimes I go for drives down Skyline.*
If you could join one group on campus, what would it be? *ATX.*
What's your spirit animal and why? *I'd be located in the feline species somewhere between lion and domestic housecat.*
If you could break one rule at Hamilton and get away with it, which would you choose? *Impersonate a campus safety officer Super Troopers' style.*
What would you give a thumbs up? *Burgers at the Diner.*
What would you give a thumbs down? *Winter.*
Who would you say is your campus crush? *The new music studio in the art building <3.*
What would your perfect date be? *Watch the sunset together, then I'll prepare dinner while she DJs.*
What is the weirdest thing currently in your room? *A crooked Muhammad Ali poster that I refuse to reposition, because while I look up to him, he wasn't perfect, and neither am I.*
If you could remake the points system, what would be the number one offense? *Sexual Assault, followed by hate crimes.*
If you were a food, which would you be and why? *A burger. I think it's a super balanced meal. You have your bread (carbs), lettuce/tomato (vegetables), beef (meat) and cheese (fat)... Balance is essential in life.*

Sarah (Macy) Lawler '16

PHOTO COURTESY OF SARAH MACY LAWLER '16

Hometown: *Brooklyn, NY.*
Home on Campus: *Milbank.*
Major: *Biology.*
Turn On? *In good shape.*
Turn Off? *Wanting me to be in good shape.*
If you were a dorm which would you be and why? *The Farmhouse because neither of us will be on campus next year.*
Lights on or lights off? *Lights off, lava lamp on.*
What advertising slogan best describes your life? *Harley Davidson: "American by Birth. Rebel by Choice."*
What TV genre best describes you? *The Bachelor Franchise.*
What's the best pick-up line you've ever used/had used on you? *"I seem to have lost my phone number. Can I have yours?"*
What's your type? *B positive.*
What are three things you cannot live without? *My mom, the salsa dancing lady emoji and butter.*
If you were any social space, what would it be? *Bundy Dining Hall.*
Where do you go when you want to be alone? *I'll go into my bed.*
If you could join one group on campus, what would it be? *The Buffers.*
What's your spirit animal and why? *A house elf because they are creepy yet lovable.*
If you could break one rule at Hamilton and get away with it, which would you choose? *No physical fighting—getting into a cat fight has yet to be checked off my Hamilton bucket list.*
What would you give a thumbs up? *Celebrity feuds on Twitter.*
What would you give a thumbs down? *Anything involving gluten.*
Who would you say is your campus crush? *Brad Prevel.*
Who would you say is your faculty crush? *Ronnie from Commons; he knows my egg order by heart.*
What would your perfect date be? *Netflix and chill.*
What is the weirdest thing currently in your room? *Broc, my broccoli-shaped pillow.*
If you could remake the points system, what would be the number one offense? *Scooping out the insides of a bagel in commons.*
If you were a food, which would you be and why? *A bacon, egg and cheese on two hashbrowns from Diner B.*

Morris: The new kid on the block

by Sarah Rahman '16
Features Contributor

Hamilton's newest residence hall also has perhaps one of the most interesting campus histories. Present day Morris House was originally a structure built in 1872 called the Hiram Perry Smith Library, named after an alumnus who owned a successful railroad company and contributed half the cost of the building. The Hiram Perry Smith Library underwent its first renovation 52 years later in 1924 to become the Knox Infirmary, and some four decades later it was converted into Minor Theater. For over half a century Minor Theater was home to theater productions on the Hill, but after the construction of The Kevin and Karen Kennedy Center for Theatre and the Studio Arts in 2014, the administration decided to convert the old theater building into a suite-style residence hall. The renovation took place over the summer of 2015 and involved completely gutting the inside of the building—though the exterior was preserved—and an extension was added on the back to make room for three more suites. The new Morris House was completed in time for students to move in at the end of August.

Morris House is named after alumnus and charter trustee Robert S. Morris '76, P'16, '17 and his wife Mary Helen, as the couple provided the leadership gift for the $6 million renovation project. Located across Campus Road next to Eells House, Morris House joins the Woollcott, Ferguson and Eells dormitories in what is popularly called the "senior row" on campus. The 10-suite, apartment-style building is currently accommodating 52 seniors. Each six-person suite is made up of two doubles, two singles with, a kitchen and a common room. After the major renovation, the new building retains only a few remnants of Minor Theater, namely the old windows. Andrew Gibeley '16 is the only current Morris resident who also had the opportunity to perform in Minor Theater. When asked how he feels about the new building, Gibeley said, "It's amazing to see how drastically they've transformed the theater. There are so few remnants of it that it feels like a completely different building. Though I miss the charm of Minor, I will always have fond memories acting there. I appreciate Morris in a different way, as a fresh, new space and a great suite to live in with my best buds." Gibeley's suitemate Jasper Nash '16 shared his thoughts on the new building as well. "It still has that new car smell," he observed. "And the layout is perfect. You can be social but still have your privacy, and most importantly, you don't have the thru traffic that you have in the Dark Side suites."

Resident Advisor Leonard Kilekwang '16, who lives in the RA suite, which is complete with a separate bedroom, restroom, living space and kitchen, shares his experiences living in Morris House thus far. "The view is great, and the Science Center, athletic facilities and library are all in very close proximity to where I live," he says, adding that the availability of cooking facilities in his suite creates a feeling of home on the Hill. Morris House, he suggests, would be an "ideal location for science majors and athletes to live in in the future" because of its nearness to the Science Center, fitness center, turf field and other athletic facilities.

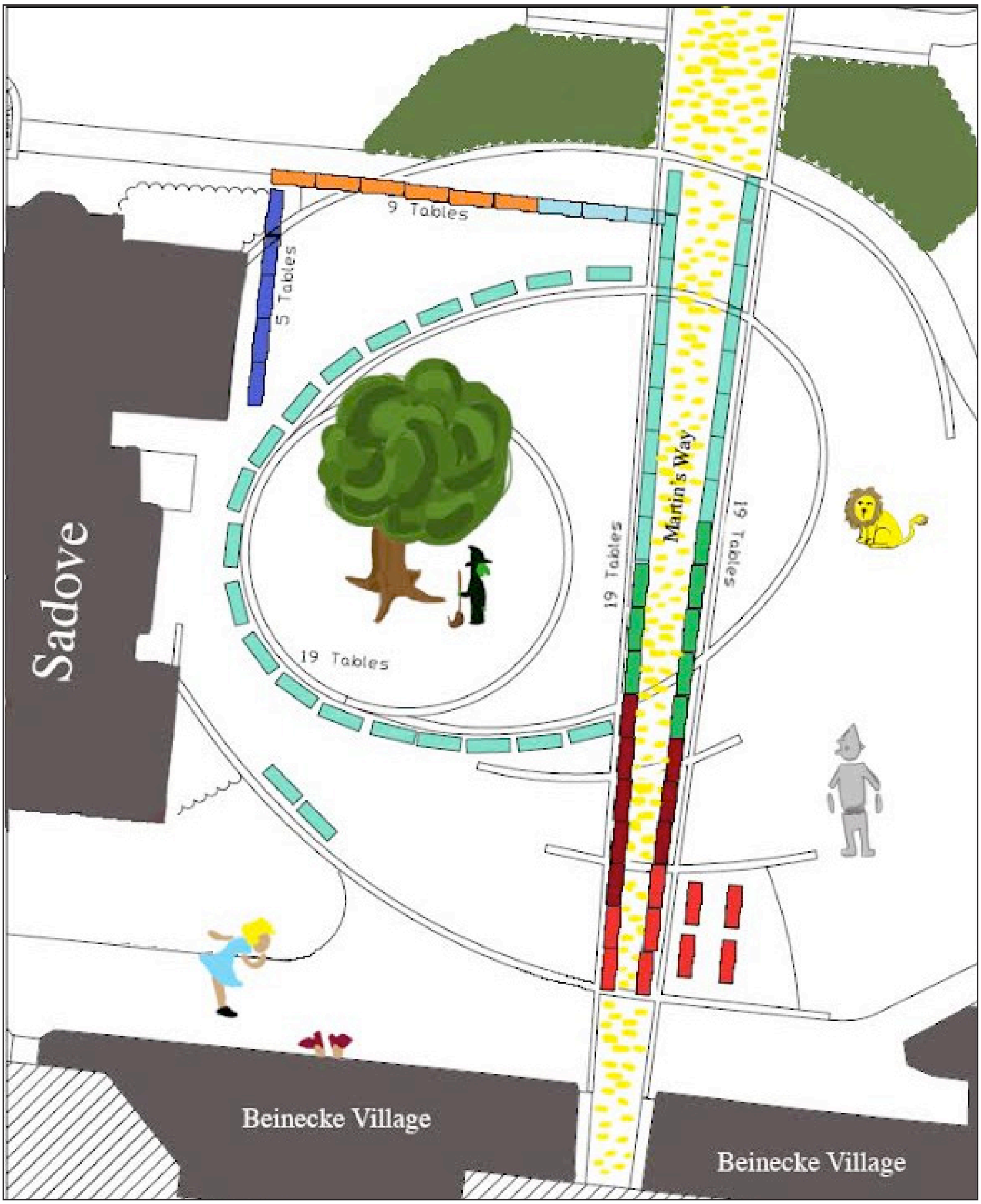
PHOTOS BY ZACH BATSON '16

Residents living in six-person suites commented on the "suite style, Dark Side feel" of the new apartments, furnished with paneled windows, new appliances and walk-in closets. While Morris House does not have waffle-like gray ceilings like the Dark Side dorms, the arrangement of rooms in these suites offers students the opportunity to live with friends in close proximity to each other, in an apartment-like style. Unlike the design of the Dark Side Suites, which allow anyone to walk through, the locked doors of Morris House create a more private feeling.

Ryan Glenn '16 describes Morris House as an "unreal senior castle. Nothing to dislike. Perhaps when it becomes a lawless zoo on the weekends when underclassmen invade!" Morris House's adjacency to the cemetery, and myths about hauntings in Minor Theater, have left residents with eerie stories about living on the Hill's newest residence hall. Allegedly, the dorm is haunted by a ghost named Connie, reputed to be dressed like a nurse. Students living here, however, have had their own experiences. "We heard someone walking in heels at six in the morning," says Amber Torres '16, adding, "this place is haunted." Other residents shared similar stories of hearing doors open and close with no cause as well as tales of cats meowing in the night. A less eerie but still fun fact about the new dorm is that dryers operate for 99 minutes, not the typical 60 minutes like the dryers in other dorms.

Morris House's popularity in the housing lottery is owed mostly to its promise of offering seniors a brand new living space, allowing the Class of 2016 to leave its mark on this residence hall. With the addition of trendy new furniture and improved lighting in rooms, MoHo, a nickname that is beginning to catch on, now joins in the ranks as one of the more desirable dormitories on campus.

Campus Life Open House Table Map



Map Key

Type of Organization	*Color on Map*	*Number of Tables*
Clubs (Greek, Performance, etc.)		36
Public Affairs Organizations		9
Student Media		7.5
Sports Organizations		7.5
Volunteer Organizations		6
Cultural Organizations		5
Religious Organizations		3

CampusLifeOpenHouse

- Friday, September 4
- 12 PM - 3 PM
- Sadove Terrace
- Learn about student organizations and campus offices

This weekend: *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

by Bridget Lavin '18
Arts & Entertainment Editor

While many college students choose to spend their summers relaxing, a dedicated group of theatre students spent their time away from the Hill studying Shakespeare. However, their upcoming production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* has been in the works for far longer. Allison Schuette '16 has wished to revive the tradition of "Shakespeare in the Glen" since the opening of the Kennedy Center for Theatre and the Studio Arts last fall. Although the prospect of strengthening student theatre and mounting a production of Shakespeare excited her, she was most eager to transport the show to the new outdoor amphitheater.

Schuette and co-director, Caitlin McQuade '18 are enthusiastic about taking advantage of the new, refreshing performance space outside the Kennedy Center. They believe it is the perfect setting, as it provides ample seating for large audiences and great acoustics. Additionally, the nearby pond creates the perfect setting for the play.

It's especially ideal because the show takes place largely in a forest. Schuette believes *A Midsummer Night's Dream* was the obvious choice when picking which play to perform. "We wanted a comedy," she tells us, "And we wanted a play that most people would be familiar with." She also loves that *Midsummer* can be interpreted as campy, but is still incredibly entertaining and fun for actors and viewers alike.

The directors took that idea and ran with it, setting the play in 1960s New York City. As the play begins, Theseus, the governor of New York, is about to marry his political rival, a preppy Demetrius who has just scorned his previous hippie love, Helena, and fairies are frolicking and making mischief in the woods of Central Park.

The director's biggest hope for the show is simply to entertain the audiences. This is especially critical because they'll be performing Shakespeare, which is not often seen at Hamilton.

"I think Shakespeare has this stereotype that it's high brow, and it's not," Schuette tells us. She believes that anyone can understand Shakespeare and anyone can have fun with it. McQuade adds, "What better entertainment is there for a liberal arts college than a hilarious night of Shakespeare?"

When asked what they enjoyed the most about the production, McQuade claims that it was the enthusiastic cast. "The entire process was incredibly collaborative. We've got a great group of people who really keep each other on their toes." Schuette agrees. She has loved working with the cast, but also her many Skype sessions with McQuade throughout the summer, during which they would spend hours discussing their vision and joking around together.

Come see *A Midsummer Night's Dream* performed in the Kennedy Center Amphitheater this Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 5 and 6, at 6:45 pm.The cast includes Vineeth Rao '16, Kelsey Crane '17, Bridget Lavin '18, Isla Ng '16, Ashley Jamison '16, Allison Schuette '18, Charlie Wilson '16, Meghan Gehan '18, Sarah Hoover '18, Ryan Cassidy '17, Collin Purcell '17, Michael Gagnon '16 and Caitlin McQuade '18. The crew includes MJ Lugo '16, Eliza Burwell '17 and Jessica Zhu '17. Frankie Outlaw '18 is the stage manage (even in the absence of a traditional stage!).

PHOTO BY YSABEL COSS '18

The "mechanicals" perform a scene during dress rehearsal last weekend.

October-
1: Wellin Fall 2015 Exhibitions: Opening Reception
23-25: Family Weekend
30: Hugo Wolf Quartet

November-
5-14: Beauty and the Beast
7: Matt Haimovitz, Cello
14: CAB Comedy Presents: Tracey Ashley

September 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3 CAB Coffeehouse: Wilson	4 Faculty Concert Late Night: Karaoke Night	5 A Midsummer Night's Dream 6:45pm
6 A Midsummer Night's Dream 6:45pm	7	8	9 Ion Eyes Jazz Concert	10	11 Southern Old-Time Jam	12 SPAC Coffeehouse
13	14	15 Rhodessa Jones Lecture	16	17 Rhodessa Jones Lecture	18 Southern Old-Time Jam	19 CAB Comedy Presents: Kevin Barnett
20 "The Imaginative Body" Workshop	21	22	23	24 Elizabeth Acevedo Poetry	25 Southern Old-Time Jam Faculty Recital	26 Alash Ensemble
27	28	29	30			

Clinton holds annual Art & Music Festival

by Max Newman '16
Arts & Entertainment Editor

On Saturday, August 29, Clinton held its tenth annual Art & Music Festival. The daylong festival attracted thousands of visitors from across upstate New York to celebrate the end of summer.

The festival highlighted food, art and music. Local art vendors filled the village green with their tents, displaying paintings, wool socks, handcrafted tableware and, of course, Clinton Pottery, just to name a few. A jeweler even had a live demonstration of the glassblowing process.

The festival attracted art vendors from all over the state.

Food trucks and tents could be found on the north side of the green. Popular options among the kids included fresh squeezed lemonade and cotton candy. Others waited anxiously in the long line for lamb gyros and hot dogs at the one-man-show food truck.

The local Clinton businesses and community centers made the festival even more special. By opening their doors as live music sites, the festival was able to host nine live music sites where 20 concerts were held throughout the day. Festivalgoers could be seen wandering in and out of venues as they explored different musical genres.

Albany-based modern rock band Sirsy was the highlight of the music scene. The duo, comprised of vocalist/drummer Melanie Krahmer and guitarist Rich Libutti, have been making music since 2000. Playing songs from their recent 2014 release, they received everyone's attention during their rock anthem "Soul Sucker." In rhythm with the song, Krahmer had audience members press their index fingers and thumbs together as to crush the soul suckers of the world. Needless to say, Sirsy dominated the stage.

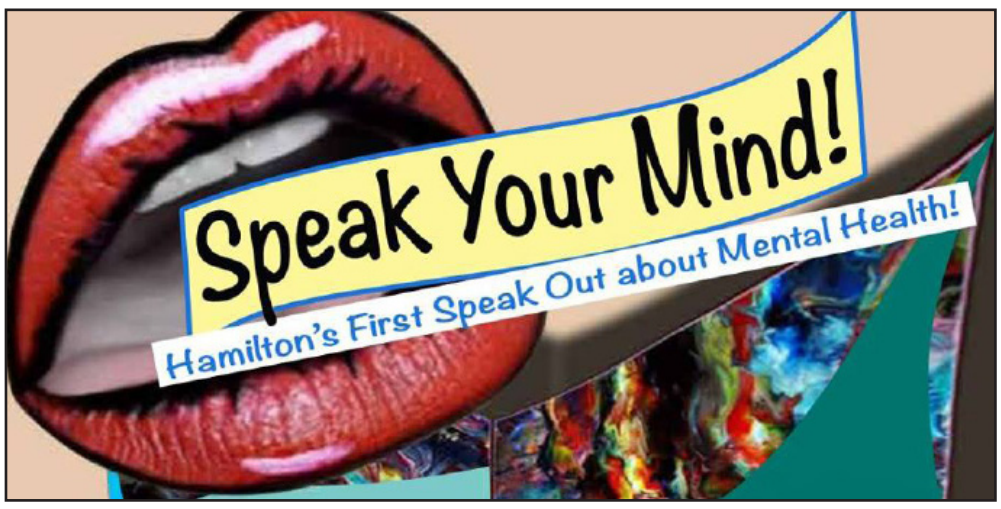
At Across The Row Bistro, one found a much different show. Singer/songwriter Ryan Quinn took audience members through the decades as he covered monumental rock and pop songs. Highlights from his set included, "Isn't She Lovely" by Stevie Wonder and "Drive" by Incubus. Quinn's coffeehouse spin on these songs won over the audience members, who could frequently be seen dancing on the restaurant porch.

PHOTOS BY LUCAS PHILLIPS '16
Albany-based rock duo Sirsy play a main-stage show under the Gazebo at the Clinton Art & Music Festival.

Two doors down at The Kirkland Art Center, Utica-based The Blarney Rebel Band gave an interesting Irish folk performance. At NBT Bank, Hamilton's very own Professor Monk Rowe performed with vocalist Ann Carey. On the grass outside the Alexander Hamilton Institute, the Adanfo African Drum Ensemble intertwined drumming, dancing and some magic.

Other venues included the Stone Presbyterian Church, The Village Tavern, Tom's Natural Foods and 8 Fresh. The unique mix of venues contributed to the festival's success.

If you weren't able to attend, there is always next year.



The Kirkland Art Center presents: Robin and Linda Williams
Friday, September 11th 8pmw
Admission is: $20 / $17 for members
for tickets: www.kacny.org
Phone: (315) 853-8871

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Cross Country teams look to improve under senior leaders

by Jane Bary '19
Sports Contributor

The men's and women's cross country teams are off to the races after beginning practices last week. Both teams bring back many of last year's standouts, and that experience should carry the Continentals to improved performances in the conference championships, as well as potential national bids.

Hamilton's men's squad returns its top five scoring runners this year, plus a handful of runners who spent last fall abroad or injured. With four first-year runners in the mix too, the team should be able to improve on last season's ninth place finish in the NESCAC conference, and put up another good showing in the Atlantic Regional championships, where the Continentals finished an impressive eighth out of 41 schools last year.

The Continentals have big goals for the year, as the men's seniors hope to cap off their collegiate careers with a showing in the national championships. "That's something we've been building for the last four years, since we got here as freshmen," captain Evan Abelson '16 said.

The team could directly qualify for nationals with a strong performance at the regional meet, or Hamilton could be selected based on solid showings throughout the season. Additionally, individual team members could qualify if they place among the top runners at regionals.

The Continentals also hope that their experience can help them place better in the conference. With the NESCAC being arguably the strongest conference for most Division III sports, including cross country, the men's team faces some stiff competition among its NESCAC peers, seven of whom were nationally ranked last year.

"This year we're definitely hoping to be in the top five," captain David Freeman '16 said. "It's kind of a mini national meet in itself, so it's exciting to run in, but it's a tough one."

Adam Pfander '16 returns to the cross country squad after spending last fall abroad. He qualified for the national meet his sophomore year. Captain Harry Sullivan '16 could also be a top performer for the Continentals, after narrowly missing out on an individual national bid in 2014.

With a few practices under their belt, the team members are excited to be back in the groove of their workouts and look forward to the season ahead. "The practices range from just being six miles at a steady pace to being workout days, where we'll do repeats of some distance, like mile repeats, closer to our race pace," Sullivan said. Members of the team run anywhere from 50 to 100 miles per week in practice to prepare for races that are usually eight kilometers. Longtime head coach Brett Hull thinks that the initial practices have been promising and notes that his runners returned in good shape this fall.

"We are happy with what we have seen thus far," Hull said. "They all put in their summer training and we will have good depth."

After a rebuilding year last season, the women's cross country team also looks poised to perform better at the NESCAC and regional championships. The Continentals placed eighth among the 11 NESCAC schools last fall, and came in 13th out of 40 teams in the Atlantic Regional championships.

"Our goals as a team are really attainable and doable," Hanna Jerome '18 said. "We can absolutely place better at NESCACs and at our regional race. Once we come together and figure out each other's strengths and weaknesses, especially with the freshmen, it's going to be a great season."

The team finished just a hair behind Connecticut College in last year's NESCAC championships, and comfortably ahead of the three weakest teams in the conference. After losing only two top seniors to graduation, the Continentals could easily rise a spot or two in the NESCAC standings this season.

One bright spot in 2014 was when Lainie Smith '16 qualified for the national championships. Her performance has many of her teammates aiming for national berths this year as well.
"It made everyone realize that it's do-

see ***Cross Country,*** *page 15*

PHOTOS COURTESY OF MIKE DOHERTY

Lainie Smith '16 looks to make it to the national meet for a second straight year this fall.

NESCAC NATION

AMHERST · BATES · BOWDOIN · COLBY · CONNECTICUT COLLEGE

Amherst Named ECAC Division III Institution of the Year

Amherst College was named the 2015 ECAC Jim Dougher Division III Institution of the Year during the Eastern College Athletic Conference's (ECAC) annual awards. Amherst finished fifth overall in the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA)/Learfield Sports Division III Director's Cup. The Lord Jeffs were especially successful during the winter and spring seasons. Following a Frozen Four appearance by the men's hockey team, swimmer Connor Sholtis '15 captured a national championship while the women's tennis team made the NCAA semifinals for the seventh consecutive year.

"I'd like to thank the ECAC for presenting Amherst with such a prestigious award," said Amhest College Director of Athletics Don Faulstic. "I'm extremely proud of our amazing student-athletes and dedicated coaches and support staff. This award truly recognizes what's important in college sports and I'm honored to receive it on Amherst's behalf."

**Via Amherst Sports Information*

Tufts hires two new head coaches

Tufts College has hired two new head coaches for their rack and cross country, and men's ice hockey programs.

Pat Norton, who previously coached Division I ice hockey at the University of Vermont and Northeastern University, will take over behind the bench for the hockey team. For the past 11 seasons (2004-15), Norton has been head coach of the hockey program at the Tilton School in New Hampshire.

In addition, Michael Schmidt has been promoted to interim head coach of the men's cross country and track & field program. A 2012 graduate of Middlebury College, Schmidt was a six-time All American who set NESCAC records in the 5,000m and 10,000. Middlebury's MVP award was renamed in his honor upon his graduation. Schmidt has been an assistant coach at Tufts in his three years since graduation.

**Via Tufts Sports Information*

MIDDLEBURY · TRINITY · TUFTS · WESLEYAN · WILLIAMS

Joe Lin '15 signs with pro Taiwanese basketball team

by Yoshi Hill '16
Senior Editor

On Aug. 7, recent Hamilton graduate Joseph Lin '15 put pen to paper on a two-year contract to continue playing basketball in Taiwan, the homeland of his parents who immigrated to the United States in the mid-1970's. He will play with the Fubon Braves, one of seven teams that compose the Super Basketball League, Taiwan's premier basketball league. With the end of his collegiate career marred by an injury, Lin hoped to continue playing basketball after finishing his studies with a major in economics, saying, "I've always wanted to play basketball after college… Last summer I practiced with one of the teams, and that's where the real interest started."

During the 2014-15 season, Lin was an integral part of the Continentals. Starting consistently for the first time, he distinguished himself as a playmaker capable of setting up his teammates for open three-point shots or layups. His distribution was unparalleled, with 6.4 assists per game, a figure that led the NESCAC. Handed the starting point guard spot at the beginning of the season, he took on this challenge in stride, not only improving his teammates but also elevating his own game to replace the scoring of the previous year's seniors.

Lin also proved himself as a two-way player capable of anticipating opponents' passes and plays, stealing the ball almost twice a game. Due to his stellar season directing Hamilton's offense, he received second team recognition from the NESCAC All-Conference Team.

Hamilton's men's basketball coach Adam Stockwell added that the team will have large shoes to fill. "Our team is going to miss Joe's quiet confidence, consistency and persistence a great deal. He has a tremendous will to prepare and the mindset that hard work will pay off," he said.

Now Lin faces the challenge of arriving on an unfamiliar team and attempting to assert his credentials as a leading member of his new team. "I am hoping to play a big role this season. My goal is to start for the Braves … Hopefully I'll create good opportunities for my teammates as well as score the ball," he explained.

Lin credits the course of his Hamilton basketball career for his eagerness to welcome such a unique opportunity saying, "I think Hamilton has made me grow a lot as a player, mentally more than anything." Additionally, he looks forward to reconnecting with Taiwanese culture following four years in central New York.

Coach Stockwell expressed a great deal of confidence in Lin's chances of success, saying, "I would expect Joe to play a major role as he did here at Hamilton. Joe's versatility should give him an opportunity to have a major impact on the team no matter what role the coaches are looking for from him."

PHOTOS COURTESY OF MIKE DOHERTY

Lin signed with the Fubon Braves this summer.

First-years bring fresh look to football team

by Will Rasenberger '19
Sports Contributor

The past few years have been difficult ones for the Hamilton football team. The 2013 and 2014 campaigns were both winless, and many of the team's losses were landslides. As the losses stacked up on the gridiron, support for the Continentals dwindled on campus and attendance for home games was the poorest in the NESCAC.

The reasons that the Continentals lost are not hard to determine. On average, Hamilton committed far more penalties and turnovers than its opponents. The team also regularly failed to convert on third downs or gain significant yardage through rush attempts.

All that is about to change—or at least it will if Coach Dave Murray and the 31 first-years and new transfers on his roster have anything to say about it.

According to Ian Leveton '19, a first-year running back from Vero Park, Florida, he and his teammates are expecting and working towards "an immediate turnaround in the program this year."

Coach Murray is coming into his second season at the helm of the program and is intent on rebuilding the Continentals. He may be just the man to do it. In his former position at Alfred University, he managed to accumulate 151 wins, 20th among currently active Division III head coaches.

Coach Murray's record and desire to create a winning program have played no small role in attracting two of the strongest of Hamilton's recruiting classes in decades. Explaining his decision to play for Hamilton despite the Continentals' poor record, Leveton, who turned down a number of other NESCAC schools, said, "I knew Murray came in two years ago and wanted to completely rebuild the team. I knew that in the upcoming years the team would be great and everyone would want to come to Hamilton."

Indeed, Hamilton has already begun to attract a rather extraordinary group of players. The recruiting class is, in the words of offensive lineman Christian Anderson '18, a "great group of real hard workers and talented guys."

Last year, Murray and his staff installed a new offensive and defensive system and emphasized that players take ownership for both their individual and the team's success. To this end, Murray has implemented an extensive playbook and intensive position meetings, mandatory team workouts, detailed practice schedules and focuses, according to Leveton, on the "fundamentals" and the "little things that make a team great."

Murray's effort has already begun to pay off. Last year, Hamilton's point differential improved by 4.7 points per game from the 2013 season. The Continentals were competitive in some of their games, and a few contests came down to the wire. During the 2014 season, support from the student body was more noticeable at home games than it had been in recent years.

The players are genuinely excited to play for a coach who wants to, and can, win. Leveton described an unwavering work ethic amongst the football team.

Players are fervently reviewing their playbooks and thinking about football both on and off the field. The threat of being cut from the team, which players didn't have to worry about under Coach Cohen, has surely helped galvanize the team.

Murray made it clear that no players were guaranteed starting spots. There are "Thirty-three starting spots, if you include special teams," Murray said, and first-years and returning players alike must earn those positions. In short, "it's a wide open process right now." Murray believes that the more competitive atmosphere has resulted in a "renewed commitment to the success of the program."

Players have been spending more time in the weight room, and Murray says they have done a great job of learning the offensive and defensive sets. A strong core of returning players will complement, and impart their knowledge of the game unto, the new recruiting class.

The upshot is that, according to Coach Murray, the football team is "much further ahead at this point in the year compared to the same point last year." As of Wednesday, practices with pads will have begun and the preseason will be in full swing. Whether or not the hard work of Coach Murray and the freshman recruiting class pay off in a winning season, Murray believes that as long as players "give 100 percent on the field" and remain selfless and invested, good things will "happen in the near future." Moreover, the recruiting classes should only get stronger as Murray and his staff perfect their approach to recruiting. As Leveton put it, "Who wouldn't want to come to Hamilton?"

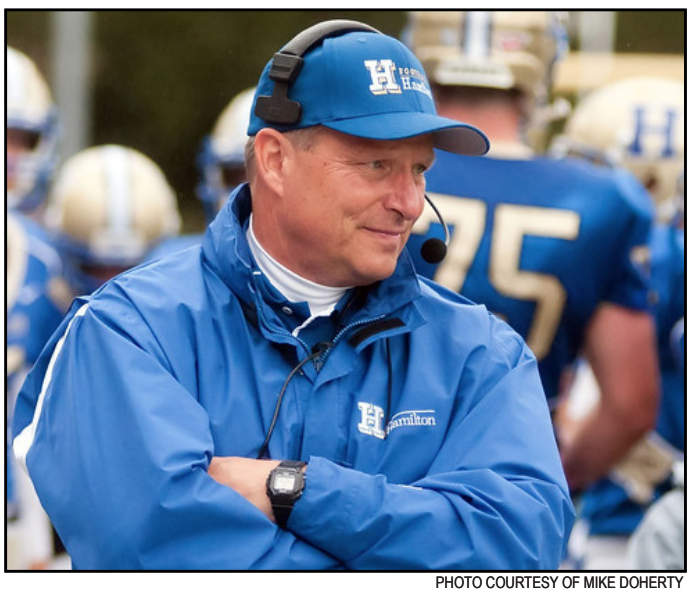

PHOTO COURTESY OF MIKE DOHERTY

Murray is entering his second year at Hamilton.

Smith, Pfander lead XC teams

from ***Cross Country,*** *page 14*

able, and this can happen," Samantha Buttrick '17 said. "We've seen it happen just from someone working really hard."

Hamilton returns standouts Smith, Buttrick and Jerome, and the team expects several first-years to factor into the equation early on, based on strong performances at the time trials held during the first practice on Aug. 27.

Coach Ellen Hull, in her 23rd year with the Continentals, instructs her runners to do between 30 and 50 miles per week in practices. The team has a couple of early-morning runs each week, as well as more intense workouts several afternoons. Competitions usually take place on Saturdays, and team members have Sundays off to rest their bodies.

Much of the women's cross country squad also competes in indoor and outdoor track and field, and runners who do middle-distance events for track spent their summers building up their mileage to prepare for cross country races that are generally longer. Many of the team's big fall meets are 6six kilometers, whereas runners may be used to competing in shorter 400-meter or 800-meter events during the track seasons.

Both the men and women will compete against local schools to start the season and finish up with the state, conference, regional and possibly national championships.

The men's and women's squads will race twice at home in October, including the state championship event.

First up for both teams is the Saratoga Invitational on Sept. 12.

H SPECTATOR SPORTS
September 3, 2015

Men's Rugby program continues to strengthen reputation

by Kaitlin McCabe '16
Editor Emerita

The Hamilton College Men's Rugby Club, formerly known as the Exiles—albeit one of the most skilled and dynamic teams on campus—is not a group most of its members ever planned upon joining.

Nick Ball '16 arrived on the Hill as a football recruit. Classmate, Matt Currier '16, left for his first semester in London with mixed feelings towards rugby, which he tried and soon after abandoned in high school. Andrew Leopold '16, who transferred to Hamilton from Colgate in his sophomore year, actually did plan to join the rugby team in order to meet new people—and quit immediately after.

Today, Ball, Currier and Leopold respectively lead the team as forwards captain, president and backs captain.

"The first rugby game I ever watched I played in," Ball said, laughing at its boldness and absurdity. Surprisingly, he might not be the only player with this story. In a squad that ranges from 20-30 men, only about three players have previous rugby experience. However, the leaders emphasize that rookies should not be discouraged from trying the sport out. "Anyone can pick it up," Ball explained. Leopold added, "You can turn an athlete into a rugby player pretty easily."

While the majority of players on the men's rugby team never played prior to coming to the College, the club itself is hardly new to the campus. In 1977, two Hamilton students studied abroad in Scotland, where they developed a passion for rugby. Upon their return to Hamilton, the next step was obvious: They decided to bring the game to the Hill.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF DK LEE '17

John Bates '16 runs a play during the team's training clinic.

Yet today, just like 40 years ago, the sport of rugby—its rules, its aim, even its point—is essentially a mystery at Hamilton. The rundown: Rugby is a free-flowing game that features a combination of strength, speed and strategy to move a ball into an opponent's territory. Though it is a full-contact sport, players wear little-to-no protective gear. The most unique aspect of rugby is the scrum, a formation used to restart play following minor infractions during the match. Its better-known American version—that is, football—was actually derived from the British sport.

Though the rugby club has had a presence on the Hill since the late-70s, its structure is drastically different this season. The men will face higher competition this year as new members of the National Small College Rugby Organization (NSCRO), in which they play in the north division of the Division-II conference. NSCRO contains six divisions, 12 conferences and about 50 teams. The men's team has been in three leagues in the last four years.

A standout difference between the team's former league and NSCRO is that instead of playing nine games, the Continentals play five. The team leaders, however, emphasize that although the decrease in playing time seems like a loss, it is actually beneficial to the team. According to Leopold, fewer games allow a team as small as Hamilton's to better adjust to potential injuries; whereas large squads can adapt to different players and dynamics, Hamilton "doesn't have that kind of size and depth in roster."

Leopold has seized a starting spot since transferring from Colgate.

The Continentals also enters the league under the guidance of a coach. For several years, the team bounced between coaches, sometimes playing without official control. Consequently, the team was, to be frank, not taken seriously. In some instances, the Hamilton team was actually forbidden to play in scheduled games because of it. Yet, membership in NSCRO required official, active coaches, and with the help of Director of Blood Fitness Center and Campus Wellness Dave Thompson, the team found its mentor, John Joseph.

"I am very excited for our new league. The NSCRO will give us an opportunty to play other schools similar in size and ability. It will be a great test for us," Joseph said.

The increasing "official" status of the club has had several positive effects. There is more dialogue between players and trainers and more access to facilities and opportunities typically used by varsity sports only. Whereas rugby players were prioritized less than other athletes in previous seasons and forced to find the time to meet with trainers despite their schedules, they now have equal clearance when there is availability. The team also will use game film to better understand their strategies and improve safety and game tactics.

"Safety is always my primary concern," Joseph said. "Everything we teach is based around safety and how to protect yourself on the rugby field."

Ball, Currier and Leopold are excited by the level of competition in NSCRO and are building strategies to best position themselves in matches. "There is bigger size in the league," Ball explains, "so [teams] use forwards more, the pack gets the ball a lot more. We pride ourselves on being smaller and quicker. We'll use speed to tire them out, to wear them down. Rugby is a game of attrition."

"We're using a new backline strategy," Leopold added. "We used to want to get the ball wide because less experienced players are often positioned on the outside, but having a more athletic pack means we will keep the ball on the inside. We will wear them down and suck in their centers. They will be more tired and anticipate balls in center."

Joseph also said, "Currently we are developing new patterns of rugby and team continuity. This will help us get on the same page and be able to exploit our opposition."

Clearly, the men's rugby program is headed in the right direction as it finds its place on the Hill. Yet, despite its growing status and success, the leaders continue to stress that the program is a club, not a varsity sport, and winning is not the sole goal of the organization. Above all else, the teammates think of rugby as a brotherhood, as a tightly-knit community that welcomes members old and new with open arms.

Ball dissuades the Hamilton community from mistaking rugby for an exclusive group. "A lot of people say rugby is a frat. I hate when people say that because it's not. It's a group of guys who all have similar interests, but it's more than that. We don't accept or deny people." Currier agreed, "Even if you're not particularly great at the sport, you're welcome to come."

The team finished Fall 2013 4-3 and Fall 2014 3-5, and certainly hope to build off of that momentum in the coming season. This past weekend, the men began their pre-season training, welcoming about seven recruits of different classes for a training and safety clinic. Next Saturday, Sept. 12, the Hamilton team will have an away match against Plattsburgh but will welcome Potsdam for their first home contest on the following Saturday, Sept. 19 at 1 pm. If you're interested in seeing a winning program that continues to grow stronger, you know where you'll be that day.

Upstate SCRC North Fall 2015 Time/Schedule

Date	Home Team	Away Team	Kick Off Time
9/12/14	Clarkson	St. Lawrence	1 p.m
	Potsdam	Paul Smith's	1 p.m
	Plattsburgh	Hamilton	1 p.m
9/19/14	Paul Smith's	Clarkson	1 p.m
	St. Lawrence.	Plattsburgh	1 p.m
	Hamilton	Potsdam	1 p.m
9/26/14	St. Lawrence.	Potsdam	1 p.m
	Plattsburgh	Clarkson	1 p.m
	Paul Smith's	Hamilton	1 p.m
10/3/14	Paul Smith's	St. Lawrence.	1 p.m
	Potsdam	Plattsburgh	1 p.m
	Hamilton	Clarkson	1 p.m
10/10/14	Clarkson	Potsdam	1 p.m
	Plattsburgh	Paul Smith's	1 p.m
	St. Lawrence.	Hamilton	1 p.m

Regional Play Offs		
10/17/14 North Regional Round # 1	# 1 Team	# 4 Team
	# 2 Team	#3 Team
Non Play Off / Cross over *(UB will replace W#5, if they are ranked higher)	West #5 * v North #5 West #6 v North #6 TEAM WITH BEST RECORD IS HOME (Pt. differential if W-L-D is identical)	
10/24/14 North Regional Round # 2	Winner (1 v 4 Playoff) v Winner (2 v 3 Playoff) HIGHER RANKED TEAM IS HOME	
10/31/14	BYE Week	
11/7/14	Upstate SCRC Championship West Round #2 Winner v North Round #2 Winner (TBD - Potsdam Region)	